THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI A£AD): (a) and (b) Air Canada have resumed operations to India from 6-11-93 by operating 4 services per week between Vancouver and Delhi via London. Air Canada have operating rights under Bilateral Air Services Agreement which they have now decided to avail of in accordance with their commercial judgement.

(c) Earlier, Air Canada were operating on the route Toronto-Bombay-Singapore and vice versa. They are now operating on route Vancouver-Delhi-Vancouver and vice versa.

Taking over of Swat Airport by NAA

1918. SHRIMATI URMILABEN CHIMANBHAI PATEL:

SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that all the infrastructure facilities have been created by the State Government for the airport at Surat with a view to hand it over to the National Airports Auhority; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GULAM NABI AZAD): (a) and (b) Surat airport belongs to the Government of Gujarat and facilities for operation of only Dornier type of aircraft have been provided by the State Government. A request was received from the State Government for taking over of Surat airport by the National Airports Authority (NAA). Due financial constraints it is not feasible for NAA to take over Surat airport.

Panel for appointments of Traffic Assistants in IA

1919. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 1,542 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th May, 1993 and state :

(a) the number of persons who have been offered jobs for the post of Traffic Assistants in Rajasthan, U.P. and Madya Pradesh so far and by what time all these canddates will be offered jobs since they have already waited for three years ;

(B) whether Government have extended the validity of the panel; if not, what will be the fulure of these candidates and what is amount of expenditure of GoverriaSent on the test and interviews that Government had to arrange tor the above panel;

(c) if so, upto what dates the life of the Panel has been extended;

id) whether Government will announce the merit list of candidates so that candidiases could plan their future; and

(e) it not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) The panel for the posts of Traffic Assistant (Statewise) was formed; by Indian Airlines, Northern Region, on 12-8-9-1. Due to ban on recruitment, none, of The candidates empanelled for posts in Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh could be offered appointment.

(b) and (c) Panels have been extepded from time to time by the Board of Directors of Indian Airlines and are now valid ,till 31-3-1994. An expenditure of approximately Rs. 44,000/- was incurred by Indian Air lines for conducting Statewisc test and inter view for the post of Traffic Assistant in Northern Region.

(d) and (e) The empanelled candidates have been informed in writing.

Proposal for re-naming of Ahamdabed International Airport

1920. SHRI CHBMANBHAI HARIBHAI SHUKLA:

SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKCR PAVE:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURlikf be pleased to state:'

(a) whether Government have received ariy proposal from the Government of

Gujarat to give the Ahmedabad International Airport the new name as "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport" ;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the action taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) Request was received from the State Government of Gujarat for renaming the Ahmedabad airport as "Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Airport".

As per the existing policy, domestic airports are named after the city/town they cater to. There is no proposal to change this policy.

Proposal lor the Development of Tourist Complex in Orissa

1921. SHRIMATI ILA PANDA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Orissa has submitted a proposal for the development of a tourist complex around Konark temple ;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) the present status of the proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Does not arise.

Proposal to Establish Civil Aerodrome/Air port at Bhuj in Gujarat

1922. SHRI ANANTRAY DEVSHANKER DAVE: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) whether there is a proposal to establish a separate civil Aerodrome other than Air Force Air-base station at Bhuj in Gujarat;

(b) if so, what is the present status of Bhuj civil Aerodrome runways, Air traffic control and terminal Building ;

(c) whether it is a fact that due to Air Force Base Aircraft, passengers of Indian Airlines are facing a number of routine problems ;

(d) whether regional Executive Director of National Airports Authority of India. Bombay region, has submitted any report to Ministry in this regard, and

(e) what action has been taken so far by Government to provide civil base Airport at Bhuj ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD): (a) to (c) The Bhuj airport belongs to Air Force. The National Airports Authority (NAA) is maintaining a small shed as departure &old area. With a view to augmenting passenger facilities, the NAA has plans to construct a terminal building. The Ministry of Defence has been requested to release 8.9 acres of land for this purpose.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Setting up of Flying and Giihding Clubs in the Country

1923, SHRI SANTOSH KUMAB SAHU : Will the .Minister of CIVIL AVIA TION AND TOURISM be pleased to state

(a) the names of the States where Fly ing and Gliding Clubs and flying school have been set-up or are proposed to be set up;

(b) the central Assistance given for set ting up of the Flying Schools and the num ber of commercial pilots trained by th existing schools; and

(c) the action taken or proposed to b taken to develop aero spores in the countr and to set-up a flying schbbl in Orissa ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATIOJ AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NAI AZAD): (a) The requisite information given in the statement (See below). !

(b) During the period from 1-4-90 31-3-93, Government have released the Rs. 426.59 lakhs towards operation of H; ing Clubs/Schools in the country, As c